



Surf Pines Breeze

Newsletter of the Surf Pines Association



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Members Vote to Retain Director

by Patrick Kelley

During a vote-by-mail special meeting that concluded on March 28, 2009, at the meeting house, members voted to retain Michael Wilkin as a director of the Surf Pines Association. The vote was 80 to 68 to retain the director.

The story of this special meeting began at the monthly meeting of the Board of Directors on January 19, 2009, when the president, Dave Lukens, received a petition from one of the chief petitioners, George Hawes, demanding a special meeting, as specified by Article IV, Section 4.2 of the bylaws, for a vote on the removal of a director, Michael Wilkin, as specified in Article VII of the articles of incorporation.

The story continued at the monthly meeting of the board on February 16, when the president announced his decision to respond to the petition by conducting a vote-by-mail recall election and convening a special meeting to validate and count the ballots and announce the result.

And the story concluded during the month of March when the president sent you a notice of the special meeting and a ballot; when the other chief petitioner, Wayne Fleming, and the director, Michael Wilkin, sent you statements to provide you with basic information for an informed vote; and when you voted and the votes were counted.

Elected three times to the Board of Directors, Michael Wilkin has served the association as president, as vice president, and as a member of the Safety and Security Committee, the Budget Committee, and the ad hoc Tsunami Committee. His honorable service to the association as a director continues with this vote.

Editors' note: Patrick Kelley serves as the corporate secretary of the Surf Pines Association and a co-editor of the *Breeze*.





Emergency Notification System: Critical to Your Safety

by Jeffrey Hall

Clatsop County has begun to use the Emergency Notification System (ENS) to enable authorities to provide residents with immediate notice of local and regional emergencies, such as storms, floods, water contamination, missing-person alerts, and other events. With part of Surf Pines in a tsunami hazard zone, ENS could be critical to your safety.

A reverse 9-1-1 system, ENS contacts you to notify you of an emergency instead of your calling 9-1-1 to report an emergency. The system sends a recorded message to households and businesses in the affected area, informing residents of the emergency and providing important information. The system can pinpoint affected areas ranging in size from a few blocks to the entire county.

Until recently, the system only called telephone numbers for standard land-line telephones, limiting its effectiveness because of the increasing use of cell phones and other communication devices. But now, through a new internet-based service, you can program the ENS to notify you of an emergency via cell phone, text message, personal digital assistant, pager, e-mail, and fax.

If you rely primarily on a land-line telephone, you do not need to do anything because you are automatically included in the system.

To register other communication devices, you need to access the web site for Surfsimple Technologies, either through the web site for the county at www.co.clatsop.or.us under the heading "Hot Topics" or directly at www.surfsimple.net/cut/clatsop_or/. (Access the site with Internet Explorer. It succeeds at this site where some other web browsers currently fail.)

At the site, you can not only register other communication devices, but also indicate the number of people in your household and provide more information that is useful for first responders, such as whether your household includes a resident with special medical needs. You can even indicate the number of pets in your household and note whether any pet is aggressive.

Editors' note: Jeff Hall chairs the Safety and Security Committee.

Quick News



Plan to Attend the Annual Meeting

The next Annual Meeting of the Surf Pines Association, as announced by Dave Lukens, President, is scheduled for Saturday, August 8, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. at the Astoria Golf and Country Club. Plan to attend.

Attend Monthly Board Meetings

The monthly meetings of the Board of Directors—open to all members of the association—are held on the third Monday of each month at 4:30 p.m. at the meeting house. "Comments from the Membership" is always toward the top of the agenda.

On the weekend before a meeting, the agenda is available at the Surf Pines web site. Soon after a meeting, the minutes are available on the web at www.surfpines.org.

Attend to business by either attending the meetings or reading the minutes.



Quick News (Continued)

Serve on the Budget Committee

Bob McWhirter, Treasurer, and Gheri Fouts, Assistant Treasurer, are seeking approximately five members for the Budget Committee. Typically, the Budget Committee, chaired by the treasurer, meets once or twice during either April or May to prepare the association's budget for the fiscal year for consideration by the Board of Directors and, ultimately, for approval by the membership at the Annual Meeting.

If you are interested in preparing the association's budget for the 2009-2010 fiscal year, then contact either Bob or Gheri by April 15 to indicate that you are willing to be appointed to the Budget Committee. (For telephone numbers, addresses, and e-mail addresses for Bob and Gheri, see page 8.)

Serve as a Director

The terms of two members of the Board of Directors, Patrick Kelley and Bob McWhirter, expire this year. As president, Dave Lukens will appoint a Nominating Committee to nominate members to fill the open positions on the board. If you have the time and the experience to contribute to the association by serving on the Board of Directors, then contact Dan Bartlett, Administrator, by April 15 to indicate an interest in being nominated. (For a telephone number, address, and e-mail address for Dan, see page 8.)

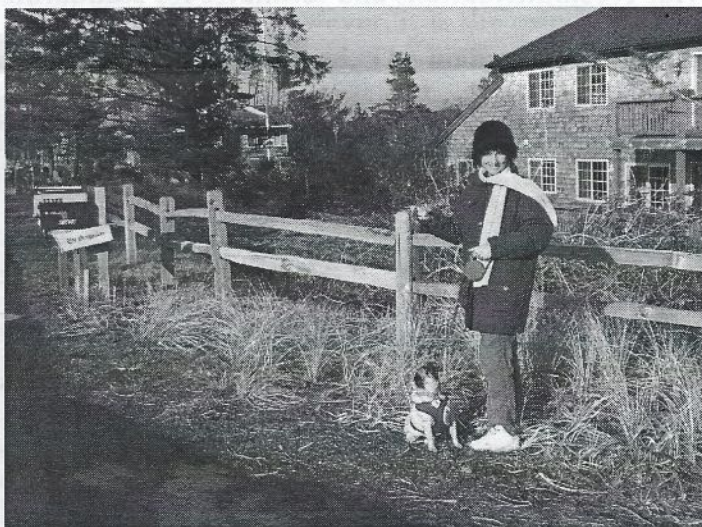
Two members of the Board of Directors will be elected at the Annual Meeting on August 8 for three-year terms. Directors are responsible for the management, maintenance, and control of the assets of the association. The five directors serve as officers of the association: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and a director at large. They also might chair committees and assume responsibility for the newsletter and the owners' guide. Significantly, they are assisted in their work by an administrator.

Be Creative

If you enjoy creative crafting, then you should know that other crafters who are members of the association share your enjoyment. Mary Ann Gantenbein reports that crafters from Surf Pines created handmade baby blankets and hats and donated them to Providence Seaside Hospital. For more information about the activities of these crafters, contact Robin Rhodes at 503-738-5208.

Bag Your Dog's Feces

If you own a dog, then you either walk your dog or your dog walks you. You and your dog walk in the park, on the paths, and on the roadsides of Surf Pines—where your neighbors walk too. If you are a dog owner who bags your dog's feces during a walk, then accept your neighbors' thanks for your neighborly action. You can stop reading this item. If you cannot stop reading, then this item is for you. A consensus has formed among members, including members who own dogs. Members agree that a dog owner's not bagging his or her dog's feces is un-neighborly if the feces are either on association property where members are likely to walk, including in the park, on the paths, and on the roadsides, or in neighbors' yards. Please take the neighborly action.



Allison Cellars always carries plastic bags when she walks Cody.



Members Say No to Road “Improvements,” But Board Says Yes to Wider Roads

by Patrick Kelley

With your dues invoice in January, you received a “Surf Pines Association 2009 Resident Road Improvement Survey” from Don Kruger, the chairperson of the Roads and Grounds Committee. Members responded to that survey clearly and emphatically.

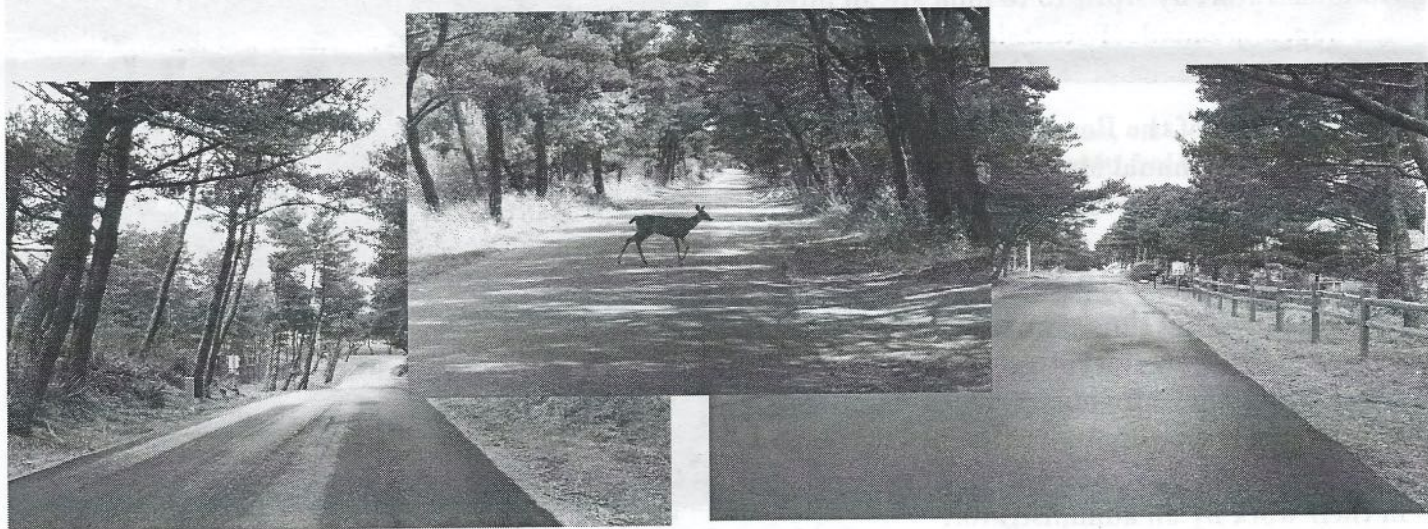
Of the 336 voting members of the association, 91 responded. The response rate, 27%, is high for a survey. To put the 91 responses in perspective, at the 3 most recent Annual Meetings, an average of 91 members voted on the annual budgets. Members who responded made clear through their numbers that they:

- Do not regard speeding as a problem on the roads of Surf Pines (63%)
- Do not regard pedestrian and bicycle safety as a problem (67%)
- Do not want recommendations and estimates for standardized road widths (78%)
- Do not consider any road in Surf Pines to be too narrow (56%)
- Do not want recommendations and estimates for speed-calming devices (73%)
- Do not want any more speed-calming devices added to the roads (60%)
- Do not want paths for pedestrians and bicycles added along the roads (60%)
- Do not want a dues increase to fund either maintenance or improvements (63%)
- Do not want a special assessment to fund either maintenance or improvements (79%)

Members’ comments were at least as emphatic as these numbers. This comment summarizes many of the other comments: “The narrow asphalt roads look nice the way they are and blend into the setting. We don’t want to see wider roads or fancy roundabouts that stand out and detract from the natural beauty of Surf Pines.”

Complete results of the survey, including the comments, are available on the web at www.surfpines.org. At the home page, click the link for “2009 Surf Pines Road Survey.”

In light of the results of the survey, the committee decided against hiring professional planners to provide recommendations and estimates for standardized road widths and speed-calming devices.



A member commented, “Regular roads would ruin Surf Pines’ ambiance.”



Members Say No. . . (Continued)

However, although only 22% of the respondents consider Manion Drive too narrow and only 11% consider Ocean Drive too narrow, the committee recommended to the Board of Directors a set of repaving standards that will have the effect of widening Manion and Ocean during maintenance work on these roads:

- Shoulder repair with base rock plus $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch minus as the finish surface 24 inches from the edges of the pavement
- Standardization of the width of Manion (south of Malarkey) at a minimum of 19 feet during normal maintenance
- Standardization of the width of Ocean at a minimum of 18 feet during normal maintenance

Adding 4 feet of shoulders, standardizing the width of Manion (currently 17-19 feet wide) at 19 feet, and standardizing the width of Ocean (currently 16-18 feet wide) at 18 feet will widen these roads.

During board meetings in February and March, discussion focused on the conflict between heeding members' response to the survey and needing roads of consistent width for drivers and paving machines. The board voted 4-1 to approve the repaving standards that widen Manion and Ocean. (My vote was the clear and emphatic "No!")

President Comments on Members' Response to Survey

by Dave Lukens



I spent a good deal of time reading members' written comments on the recent "Surf Pines Association 2009 Resident Road Improvement Survey." What I read was that the members who responded (fewer than 100) like the diversity of the roads and do not want our system to become standardized with a single road width.

The board is elected to represent the membership and provide leadership on issues brought before it. When a survey is conducted, we have a better gauge on how the total membership feels, even though not all members responded and writing questions for any survey is a tricky undertaking. Because of the survey results, there will not be any money spent to hire a professional planner to provide recommendations for speed-calming devices or standardization of all of our roads. However, it is the responsibility of the board to make sure that the roads are safe and that they are maintained. The main travel routes (Manion Drive and Ocean Drive) are showing signs of damage along the edges and will require some heavy maintenance in the years ahead.

One rather optimistic comment from the response to the survey—"I'll bet the roads were approved when installed and tied to a plan for the future"—made me remember a discussion I had recently with a board member. The gist was how Surf Pines has evolved over a long time, under a variety of economic conditions, and is a collection of connected developments and individual properties that were brought under the umbrella of a homeowners' association. We are governed by a rather minimal number of by-laws, but there is no master plan or vision for Surf Pines. That is why there are radical differences of opinions on how to manage our roads, our vegetation, and the entrance gates and why we need to do surveys occasionally.

The wide variety of road widths is a reminder of the diversity that most members seem to enjoy about Surf Pines. Diversity, in my opinion, is also what makes for a strong board of directors.

Wind Turbine Removed



As they promised their neighbors, William and Diane Dougherty removed the wind turbine that was constructed on their property at 89340 Ocean Drive. The wind turbine was controversial because owners of neighboring properties and members of the board objected to its placement west of the ocean-front setback line. The wind turbine also was controversial because its construction was a surprise to the neighbors and the board.

Dan Bartlett, the administrator for the association, explained that the source of the controversy was a county planner's error in following Type I application procedure instead of Type II. Type I does not include a notice of intent to issue a permit. Type II includes the county's mailing to the owners of neighboring properties and to the association, in the case of Surf Pines, a notice of intent to issue a permit. Dan is confident that, because of the controversy in this case, county planners are unlikely to repeat this procedural error.

Committee Sponsors Community Project



The Community Relations Committee is sponsoring a community outreach project with the purpose of providing a significant donation to a charitable organization in the county. The current project is the raffle of a quilt that was created by crafters who are members of the Surf Pines Association. Considered a lap throw, the 100% cotton quilt measures approximately 60 x 70 inches. Raffle tickets will be sold at the association's social events and outside the association. The proceeds of the raffle will benefit the county food bank.



This quilt, created by crafters from Surf Pines, will be raffled and the proceeds will benefit the county food bank

Surf Pines Garage Sale Scheduled



The Annual Surf Pines Garage Sale is scheduled for garages all over Surf Pines on Saturday, July 4, 2009, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (or whatever hours that you open and close your garage door). On this 4th of July holiday, business should be as hot as a firecracker.

To participate as a seller, call Katie Weber, the co-chairperson of the Community Relations Committee who manages the event, at 503-738-5986. Participants are asked to contribute a small amount (usually \$3) to pay for newspaper ads and directional signs that guide buyers to sellers' garages.

Surf Pines Social Calendar

with photos by Katie Weber

The Surf Pines social calendar for 2009 began with Spring Fling, a party featuring tempting wines and tasty appetizers. Approximately 30-35 members attended the party on Saturday, March 7, 2009, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the home of Gene and Norma Keever, 89026 Ocean Drive.

Though the weather was wintry, with snow forecast for the night, the hosts welcomed guests warmly. The food, the drink, and the company were good. And the partygoers seemed to enjoy their evening fling into an early spring.



Norma and Gene Keever hosted the party warmly.



Surf Pines residents enjoyed tempting wines and tasty appetizers at the Spring Fling.



Surf Pines Social Calendar

The Annual Surf Pines Picnic is scheduled for the park on Sunday, July 5, 2009, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Plan to make this classic picnic, which features good food and good company, a part of your 4th of July holiday weekend.





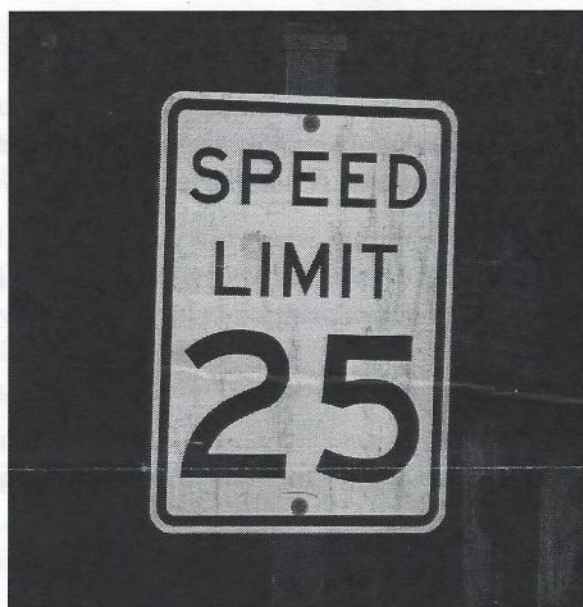
For the Record: Drivers Assessed for Speeding

Assessments are levied against drivers for exceeding the posted speed limits on the roads of Surf Pines.

Assessments are based on this schedule of fees currently in use by Oregon courts:

MPH in Excess of Posted Speed	Assessment
1-10	\$97
11-20	\$145
21-30	\$242
Over 30	\$427

According to the association's policy, notice of this action is published in the *Breeze*.



Surf Pines Association Board of Directors

President	Dave Lukens	89774 Surf Pines Landing Dr.	717-1284	dluke51@freedomnw.com
Vice President	Michael Wilkin	89961 Manion Dr.	861-0701	wilkin@ccalmr.ogi.edu
Treasurer	Bob McWhirter	89997 Surf Pines Landing Dr.	738-5758	bobmcwh@aol.com
Secretary	Patrick Kelley	33251 Pine Ridge Ct.	717-8460	roger_masse@sprynet.com
Director	Gheri Fouts	89531 Shady Pines Rd.	738-6434	ghfouts@msn.com
Administrator	Dan Bartlett	210 Waldorf Circle Astoria, OR 97103	791-8060	drbartlet@charter.net
COMMITTEES				
Safety & Security	Jeff Hall	89685 Manion Dr.	739-0893	jlh434@mac.com
Roads & Grounds	Don Kruger	90128 Manion Dr.	861-3815	dnkruger@msn.com
	Ken Weber	89783 Sea Breeze Dr.	738-5986	kkweber1@yahoo.com
Community Relations	Katie Weber	89783 Sea Breeze Dr.	738-5986	kkweber1@yahoo.com
	Bonnie Rogie	89825 Surf Pines Landing Dr.	717-1003	brogiel@verizon.net

The Surf Pines Breeze is a quarterly publication of the Surf Pines Association, 33317 Surf Pines Lane, Warrenton, Oregon 97146. Members are invited to contribute articles. Contact Roger Masse or Patrick Kelley at roger_masse@sprynet.com or at 33251 Pine Ridge Court.